

To: Federal Communications Commission

I would like to submit these comments to the FCC's **"Notice of Proposed Rulemaking" 05-311** on "video franchising."

I support Local Franchise Agreements because a one-size-fits all generalized franchise agreement will not take into account the unique and varied needs of each individual community. Only when each community negotiates its own franchise agreement can all of us, as citizens and residents of the U.S., continue to be assured that local public interest is served.

1. LFAs will ensure that communications companies do not engage in red line practices that disenfranchise under resourced communities.
2. LFAs will hold communications companies accountable for rates and rate increases ensuring access to video media for all communities.
3. LFAs provide PEG Access Channels so that all groups and individuals in our communities can speak for themselves in our local media.
 - a. PEG Access Channels reflect the diversity of voices in our communities, providing under represented, underserved and under resourced groups in our towns with the opportunity to bring their own voices and faces to the public. In my town, Cambridge MA, Cambridge Community Television (CCTV) has channel 22, an entirely non-English channel, which allows our large foreign student and immigrant population to speak for themselves to the public.
 - b. News affiliates and commercial cable television channels do not provide the multiple perspectives and in depth coverage of local issues that PEG Access Channels do. PEG Access Channels allows citizens and residents to become fully informed about local issues in education, healthcare, transportation, etc, by hearing first person voices directly affected by these issues, voices which are not motivated by commercial or marketing interests.
 - c. PEG Access Centers provide the tools and training for people in our communities to produce their own media, exercising their First Amendment Rights and becoming active, literate, and critically thinking producers of media rather than merely passive consumers of the ready-made ideas of commercial and cable television.

As a supporter of CCTV in Cambridge MA, I strongly urge the FCC to rule for the maintenance of local franchise agreements.

Very truly yours,
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